

1. Status of preparations for the FAO Consultation: Room 5215, Herbert Clark Hoover Building (Department of Commerce), 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

2. Shark regional workshops: Sarasota—Mote Marine Laboratory, 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34236, and Monterey—Monterey Bay Aquarium, 886 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dean Swanson at (301) 713-2276; to attend shark workshops as an observer, contact Kathy Kessler at (202) 861-8346. Information on the FAO initiatives is available online at <http://kingfish.ssp.nmfs.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FAO, with input from the United States and other governments, is preparing for an FAO Consultation in late 1998 to consider action plans on the conservation and management of sharks, reduction of incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries, and the management of fishing capacity. All FAO member countries as well as observers will be invited to the FAO Consultation. Preparations include meetings of expert Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to consider draft guidelines and plans of actions well in advance of the FAO Consultation.

On August 8, 1997, NMFS published a notice of U.S. involvement in the planning and preparations for the FAO Consultation (62 FR 42766). Additional background information is presented in that **Federal Register** notice and is not repeated here. NMFS will host a meeting to brief the public on the status of preparations for the FAO Consultation at the time and place provided above.

Shark Regional Workshops

To assist development of background documents for the Shark TWG, the United States will sponsor two shark regional workshops. The goal for the upcoming shark regional workshops and the subsequent TWG and FAO Consultation is to contribute to developing a global strategy (action plan) and guidelines for sustainable international and regional management of elasmobranch species by national, regional and highly migratory management groups. The workshop proceedings will be compiled into proposed strategies and used to contribute to the TWG, which will provide background documents for the FAO Consultation.

The shark regional workshops will review—

1. Shark fisheries in the region, including directed fisheries and fisheries in which sharks are a bycatch and

2. Current data collection and management in the region.

Regional workshop participants will also be asked to develop recommendations on action areas, priority issues and time targets for the following categories:

1. Research, data collection, and monitoring;
2. Conservation and management for sustainable shark populations;
3. Building capacity for conservation, research, and management;
4. Regional and international cooperation; and
5. Funding for shark conservation and management.

Regional workshop participants will include fisheries scientists, shark experts, and regional fishery management organization representatives. The workshops are open to interested observers. Anyone planning to attend as an observer should contact Kathy Kessler (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Special Accommodations

The meeting on the status of preparations for the FAO Consultation will be physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dean Swanson at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: November 4, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-29584 Filed 11-7-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 110397A]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 1024 (P77-2#69)

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of scientific research permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific research permit no. 1024 submitted by

the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92038 [Co- Investigator: Dr. Rennie S. Holt] has been granted to increase the number of Antarctic fur seals to be taken annually.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 29, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 50907) that an amendment of permit no. 1024, issued December 30, 1996 (62 FR 1875), had been requested by the above-named organization. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Dated: November 3, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-29583 Filed 11-7-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Indonesia

November 4, 1997.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 12, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the